

Message Text

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15

ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01

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DRAFTED BY EA/TB:GBROBERTS:LRR

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EA/P - MR. SMITH

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R 242056Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 017485

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TH

SUBJECT: "TIME" INTERVIEW WITH KING

REF: MASTERS-ROBERTS TELCON JANUARY 23

1. WE WOULD LIKE TO BE HELPFUL IN MITIGATING ANY POSSIBLE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF "TIME" CORRESPONDENT RANGE'S INTERVIEW WITH THE KING, BUT AFTER DISCUSSING THE PROBLEM WITH THE APPROPRIATE OFFICES HERE IN THE DEPARTMENT, IT IS CLEAR THAT WE NEED MORE INFORMATION.

2. FOR EXAMPLE, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF WE KNEW WHAT RANGE ASKED THE KING ABOUT HIS BROTHER'S MURDER AND "THE KING AND I" AND WHAT THE KING SAID IN REPLY. THESE SUBJECTS AND THEIR DELICATE OVERTONES ARE IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN, AND AN APPROACH TO THE "TIME" HIERARCHY WOULD HAVE A CHANCE OF DOING SOME GOOD ONLY IF THERE WERE SOME NEW ANGLE WHICH NEEDED TO BE PUT IN PROPER PERSPECTIVE.

3. DO WE KNOW IF RANGE HAS FILED A REPORT? AN EMBASSY APPROACH TO HIM AS SOMEONE RELATIVELY NEW ON THE SCENE
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WOULD BE THE BEST WAY OF COPING WITH THE PROBLEM SINCE IT

WOULD MEAN CUTTING OFF ANY DIFFICULTIES AT THE SOURCE.

4. ANY FURTHER BACKGROUND YOU CAN GIVE US WOULD BE
HELPFUL. WE ALWAYS RUN THE RISK IN THESE SITUATIONS OF
ONLY MAKING THINGS WORSE, AND THE BETTER INFORMED WE ARE
THE BETTER CHANCE WE HAVE OF DOING SOME GOOD. INGERSOLL

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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